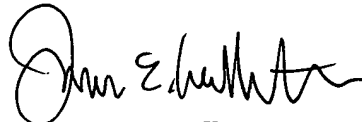


REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment eliminates the multiple dependent claim status of claims 3, 4, 6-8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 21-27, 29, 30, 32-39 and 41 in order to avoid the multiple dependent claim surcharge. Also, the improper multiple dependent claim status of claims 42 and 43 has been corrected.

Early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: February 8, 2006

JEL/spp

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